



### REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY | 2022

The Northeast Ohio Foundation for Patriotism (NEOPAT) is vital in keeping the promise to foster growth for our military community through our mission to promote patriotism, support military families, and remember those that have gone before us. NEOPAT serves military families every day by keeping the promise referenced in song during World War II. "We will wait and pray for them until they come home ... and if they are in need, we will care for them."

### **MAKING AN IMPACT**

Numerous veterans and military families have been impacted by our mission resulting in over \$3.8 million in direct impact.

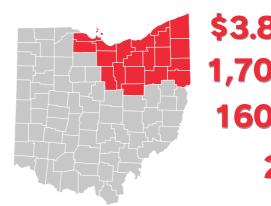
Currently our region contains over 300,000 veterans and over 8,000 individuals in active military units. Most importantly, among these are the friends and families of the 112 young men and women from Northeast Ohio who have died serving our country since 9/11.

NEOPAT is committed to *Keeping the Promise* to support and serve military families in our 20-county service area in their times of need with a focus on core programming and pillars of support:

Emergency Support & Wellness - Helping on the home front with emergency support such as medical, food and housing needs for military and veteran families, assisting with utility payments and basic needs, access to mental health programming, and championing an annual adopt-a-military family program.

Patriotism & Community Engagement - Promoting patriotism through community service projects such as Operation Flags of Freedom, engaging youth through essay contests, developing patriotism curriculum, salute to service programs, special events and volunteer opportunities.

Remembrance - Honoring patriots who have given the ultimate sacrifice through remembrance initiatives which include the Charles Kirby Wilcox Honoree award, Gold Star Family recognition and memorial monuments for our fallen.

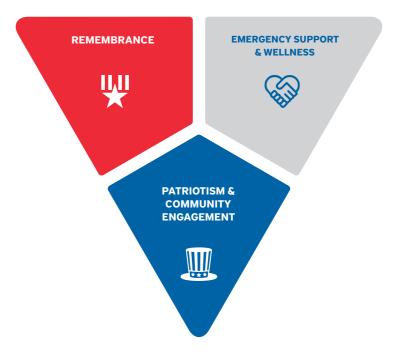


 Total Donations Direct and Indirect

 Donations Directly Made to Families

 Individual, Corporate and Foundation Supporters

Serving 20 Counties



### **VISION FOR THE FUTURE**



NEOPAT's vision for the future is to further enhance its current role as a military support organization and an entity that is making positive changes in the quality-of-life for our Northeast Ohio military community. NEOPAT is focusing on being mission ready to work with veterans and their families on an individual basis as their needs arise.

NEOPAT continues to connect the civilian community to our military heroes and families who are in need, enabling the community to Keep the Promise in recognizing and supporting those families.

Our focus for 2022 – 2023 is to be Mission Ready to continue to meet the needs of veterans and their families with Post Traumatic Growth.

To help veterans and their families facing adversity find new meaning through creativity, resilience and strength. Providing them with new outlets for enhancing their lives.

NEOPAT helps veterans and their families by utilizing a two-pronged focus on Mental Health Support Programs and Alternative Therapy Programs. Music, art, animal and outdoor therapies have proven to improve engagement for veterans who in turn stay committed to the programs which help them express themselves in new and positive ways. NEOPAT continues to be committed to working with veterans to find resources to become stronger on the other side of Post Traumatic Growth.

"It's a war within yourself that never goes away." - Veteran with PTSD

## **REMEMBERING OUR NATION'S HEROES**

#### Danny's Story

NEOPAT is honored to recognize USMC LCpl Daniel R. Scherry as our 2022 Charles Kirby Wilcox Honoree. Born and raised in the West Park community of Cleveland, Danny was an amazing person who enjoyed everything life had to offer.

Danny made laughing an unbreakable habit - for himself and for everyone around him by thoroughly enjoying life and bringing fun to everyone that knew him. He was an avid lover of movies and a guardian of family traditions. Throughout his life, in all the lessons he learned and fun times he had, Danny was always working toward his ultimate goal - to be a Marine.

Danny enlisted in the Marines in January 2006 and left for boot camp at Parris Island that April. Immediately recognized for his hard work and determination, Danny was the leader of his squad for nearly the entire time at camp. Danny trained mortars as his military occupational specialty (MOS) and received two promotions in the first year as he anxiously awaited his deployment to the AI Anbar Province in Iraq. As Danny would say, he "dominated" his weapon and he was looking forward to putting all his training as a mortarman to use and couldn't wait to serve his country and make a difference.

Danny died On April 16, 2007, enroute back to base after an extended combat mission when he was struck by a live electrical wire. If Danny would not have served, his life may have been longer, but it wouldn't have been as complete - Danny would never have felt complete if he wasn't a Marine.

Join us in honoring and remembering Danny and learn more about his story through this powerful video.

For more information about all Charles Kirby Wilcox honorees, visit neopat.org/about/charles-kirby-wilcox-honorees









# **HELP US** Keep the Promise

NEOPAT receives an unprecedented number of requests daily from veterans needing help making ends meet and maintaining stable access to food, basic necessities and much needed emotional support. Your support is critical now more than ever. Your contribution serves and supports the needs of local military and their families in our community. Please consider joining us and donating to our mission to *Keep the Promise*.

Together, NEOPAT and generous supporters of its mission can truly make a stand to support our countries most valued patriots who continue to take a stand for us.

### **MAKE A DONATION**



Scan the QR code with your smartphone camera.

SCAN ME

#### Visit neopat.org/keepthepromise

Or mail a check to:

Northeast Ohio Foundation for Patriotism 169 Kensington Oval Rocky River, OH 44116



www.neopat.org

